

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 288

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning bigotry and religious intolerance, and recognizing that holy books of every religion should be treated with dignity and respect.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2005

Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. SERRANO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning bigotry and religious intolerance, and recognizing that holy books of every religion should be treated with dignity and respect.

Whereas believers of all religions, including the Abrahamic faiths of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, should be treated with respect and dignity;

Whereas the word Islam comes from the Arabic root word meaning “peace” and “submission”;

Whereas there are an estimated 7,000,000 Muslims in America, from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds, forming an integral part of the social fabric of America;

Whereas the Quran is the holy book for Muslims who recite passages from it in prayer and learn valuable lessons about peace, humanity, and spirituality;

Whereas it should never be official policy of the United States Government to disparage the Quran, Islam, or any religion in any way, shape, or form;

Whereas mistreatment of prisoners and disrespect toward the holy book of any religion is unacceptable and against civilized humanity; and

Whereas the infringement of an individual's right to freedom of religion violates the Constitution and laws of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns bigotry, acts of violence, and in-
3 tolerance against any religious group, including our
4 friends, neighbors, and citizens of the Islamic faith;

5 (2) declares that the civil rights and civil lib-
6 erties of all individuals, including those of the Is-
7 lamic faith, should be protected;

8 (3) recognizes that the Quran, the holy book of
9 Islam, as any other holy book of any religion, should
10 be treated with dignity and respect; and

11 (4) calls upon local, State, and Federal authori-
12 ties to work to prevent bias-motivated crimes and
13 acts against all individuals, including those of the Is-
14 lamic faith.

